



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10**

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155
Seattle, WA 98101-3123

OFFICE OF
WATER AND
WATERSHEDS

November 19, 2018

Travis Wells, General Manager
Warm Springs Water Treatment Plant
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
P.O. Box 1196
Warm Springs, Oregon 97761

Re: Treatment Technique (TT) Violation: Exceedance of Monthly Turbidity- 0.3 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU)-Federal Violation Code # 44
Warm Springs Water Treatment Plant PWS ID# 104101247

Dear Mr. Wells:

We recently reviewed your monthly report for Combined Filter Effluent(CFE) Turbidity and your results for October 2018 showed that **13.77%** of turbidity measurements were above **0.3 NTU** and **86.23%** were below the standard turbidity level.

Under the Surface Water Treatment Rule(SWTR), for systems using conventional filtration or direct filtration, the turbidity level of representative samples of a system's filtered water must be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in at least **95%** of measurements taken each month. That is, 95 percent of the measurements recorded every 4 hours must be less than or equal 0.3 NTU over each calendar month period.

It is important to know that the SWTR established treatment technique requirements for turbidity to protect public health. Turbidity is an indicator for (1) filtration efficiency for removal of pathogens and other particles, and (2) the treatability of the water by disinfection. A high turbidity level indicates the potential for pathogen breakthrough and interference with disinfection efficiency. In addition, your water system must calibrate the continuous turbidity monitor(s) at least once per week according to the procedures established in Method 2130 B of the 17th edition of Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater.

Based on the monthly CFE turbidity report provided by your system on November 12, 2018, our review showed that the Warm Springs water system has failed to meet the turbidity level treatment technique requirements under the SWTR. **As a result, this is a treatment technique violation and requires Tier 2 public notification.**

A public water system that violates a TT is required to notify the public of this TT violation as soon as practical, but no later than 30 days after learning of the violation, so please make sure to notify your customers no later than 30 days after you receive this letter. The notice must be delivered by hand or by mail. It must also be made available to other persons served by the water system that have not been reached by the methods listed above, for example via newspaper, email or by posting in a public

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location. Please see the enclosure titled "Public Notification Delivery Instructions" which provides more details about public notification delivery. You must also send a copy of the notice that you deliver to your customers as well as a completed certification form (enclosed) to the Environmental Protection Agency no later than ten days after you notify your customers.

We have drafted a public notice which you can distribute to your customers (see enclosure with the heading "Important Information about Your Drinking Water"). If you would like to prepare your own public notice, please contact Ricardi Duvil, PhD., P.E., SWTR manager, at duvil.ricardi@epa.gov or (206) 553-2578 so he can advise you as to which sections of this draft notice must be included in your notice exactly as written. If you would like to use the enclosed version of the notice, but would like to change something in it, for example, the water system contact, please contact Ricardi. He can make the change and send the revised notice to you, or he can send you an electronic copy of the notice and you can make changes yourself.

If you have any questions, please contact Ricardi Duvil, Ph.D., P.E., SWTR Manager, at the email address and phone number above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marie Jennings".

Marie Jennings
Drinking Water Unit Manager

Cc: Alyssa Macy, Chief Operations Officer